GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1817
ANSWERED ON:15.03.2005
RELIGIOUS CONVERSIONS
Nayak Shri Ananta

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the foreign missionaries coming to India are engaging themselves in religious conversions by alluring the poor through monetary and other facilities and benefits;

(b) if so, whether any press report has come to the notice of the Government regarding instances of foreigners being objected by local people for engaging in conversions;

(c) if so, the details in this regard; and

(d) the action taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL)

(a) to (d) : There have been press reports from time to time regarding allegations that foreign missionaries are engaging themselves in religious conversions by offering inducements and objections raised by local people against such alleged activities.

`Public Order` and `Police` are State subjects as per the Constitution of India and hence prevention, detection, registration, investigation and prosecution of crimes are primarily the concern of the State Governments/UT Administrations. Action is taken as per existing laws by the law enforcing agencies whenever instances of violation come to notice.

Some State Governments have enacted laws providing for prohibition of conversion from one religious faith to any other religious faith by use of force or inducement or by fraudulent means etc.